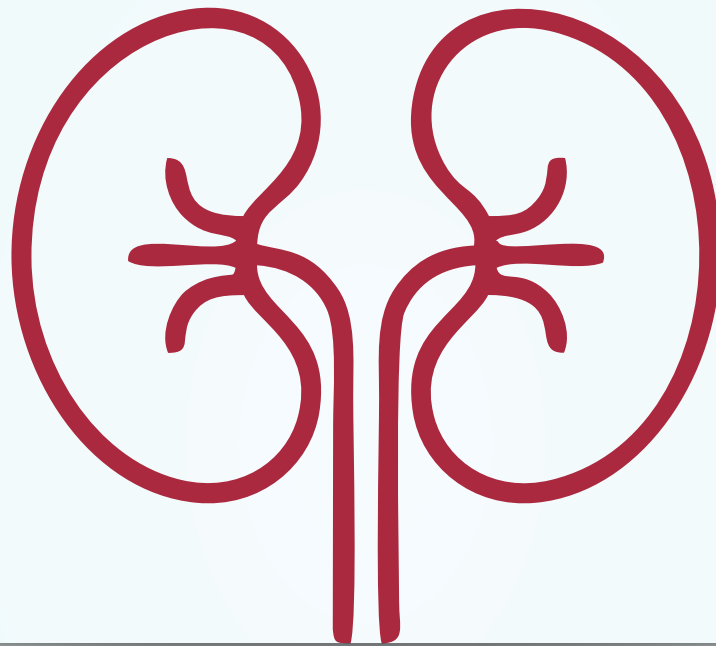




**CME FOUNDATION OF INDIA**



**NOVEL THERAPY TO  
TREAT CKD ANEMIA IN INDIA**

**EVENT REPORT**

## About Workshop

The **CME Foundation of India** organized an academic workshop on **Novel Therapy to Treat CKD Anemia in India** on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at ESIC Hospital, K. K. Nagar, Chennai. The session aimed to address the unmet clinical needs in the management of anemia associated with chronic kidney disease (CKD) and to explore emerging therapeutic approaches in this domain.

The workshop was attended by physicians and nephrologists from ESIC Hospital and surrounding centers. The session by **Dr. Y. Dharanidhar Reddy** covered multiple aspects of CKD anemia management, such as understanding the growing challenge in CKD anemia, limitations of current therapies, desidustat as a novel therapy in CKD management, its mechanism, and practical integration in clinical practice.

**Date:** 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026

**Venue:** ESIC Hospital, K. K. Nagar, Chennai

**No. of participants:** 29

## Agenda

**Date:** 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026

**Time:** 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Topics	Speaker	Timings
Registration		3:00 p.m. – 3:05 p.m.
Welcome Note		3:05 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.
Novel Therapy to Treat CKD Anemia in India	Dr. Y. Dharanidhar Reddy M.B.B.S., M.D. (General Medicine), D.M. (Nephrology)	3:10 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.
Vote of Thanks		3:55 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

# Summary of the Novel Therapy to Treat CKD Anemia in India

## The Escalating Burden of Anemia in Chronic Kidney Disease

Dr. Y. Dharanidhar Reddy initiated the session by underscoring the growing clinical and public health challenge posed by anemia in patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) in India. He highlighted that anemia is not merely a laboratory abnormality but a major contributor to adverse clinical outcomes, diminished functional capacity, reduced quality of life, and escalating healthcare costs. Dr. Y. Dharanidhar Reddy elaborated that anemia in CKD arises from a complex interplay of pathophysiological mechanisms, including inadequate iron availability, persistent low-grade inflammation, and a progressive decline in endogenous erythropoietin production due to renal impairment. The coexistence of these factors often results in a heterogeneous disease profile, making anemia difficult to manage with conventional therapeutic strategies alone. He emphasized that this multifactorial nature necessitates a re-evaluation of current treatment paradigms and calls for more comprehensive and mechanism-based approaches.

## Limitations of Existing Anemia Treatment Strategies

The discussion subsequently focused on standard therapeutic options currently employed in the management of CKD-related anemia, particularly erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (ESAs) and iron supplementation. Dr. Y. Dharanidhar Reddy pointed out that while these therapies have been foundational in anemia care, they are associated with several practical and clinical limitations. These include inconsistent hemoglobin responses, safety concerns related to high ESA doses, the burden of injectable administration, and challenges in ensuring adequate iron availability. In the Indian healthcare context, additional barriers such as limited accessibility, cost constraints, and the need for frequent monitoring further complicate their use. As a result, many patients experience suboptimal hemoglobin control, require repeated dose adjustments, or struggle with long-term adherence, leaving significant unmet needs in routine anemia management.

## Desidustat: Addressing Unmet Needs Through a Novel Mechanism

A major highlight of the workshop was the introduction of Desidustat, an oral hypoxia-inducible factor prolyl hydroxylase (HIF-PH) inhibitor, as an emerging therapeutic option for CKD-related anemia. Dr. Y. Dharanidhar Reddy explained that Desidustat works by stabilizing hypoxia-inducible factors, thereby promoting physiologic erythropoietin production within the body. In addition to stimulating erythropoiesis, Desidustat enhances iron mobilization and utilization while lowering hepcidin levels, addressing key contributors to functional iron deficiency. By simultaneously targeting multiple

pathogenic pathways, Desidustat represents a more holistic approach to anemia management. Its oral formulation offers a convenient alternative to injectable ESAs, with the potential to improve treatment acceptance and adherence among patients.

### **Clinical Evidence and Real-World Experience with Desidustat**

Dr. Dharanidhar Reddy reviewed pivotal clinical trial evidence demonstrating that Desidustat effectively increases hemoglobin levels and maintains them within target ranges across diverse CKD populations. He noted that these benefits were observed in both dialysis-dependent and non-dialysis-dependent patients. Importantly, the therapy was shown to have a favorable safety and tolerability profile, with no unexpected adverse signals. In addition to controlled trial data, real-world clinical experiences were shared, reinforcing the consistency of hemoglobin response and practical feasibility of Desidustat in routine clinical practice. These findings collectively support its role as a reliable and effective option in contemporary anemia care.

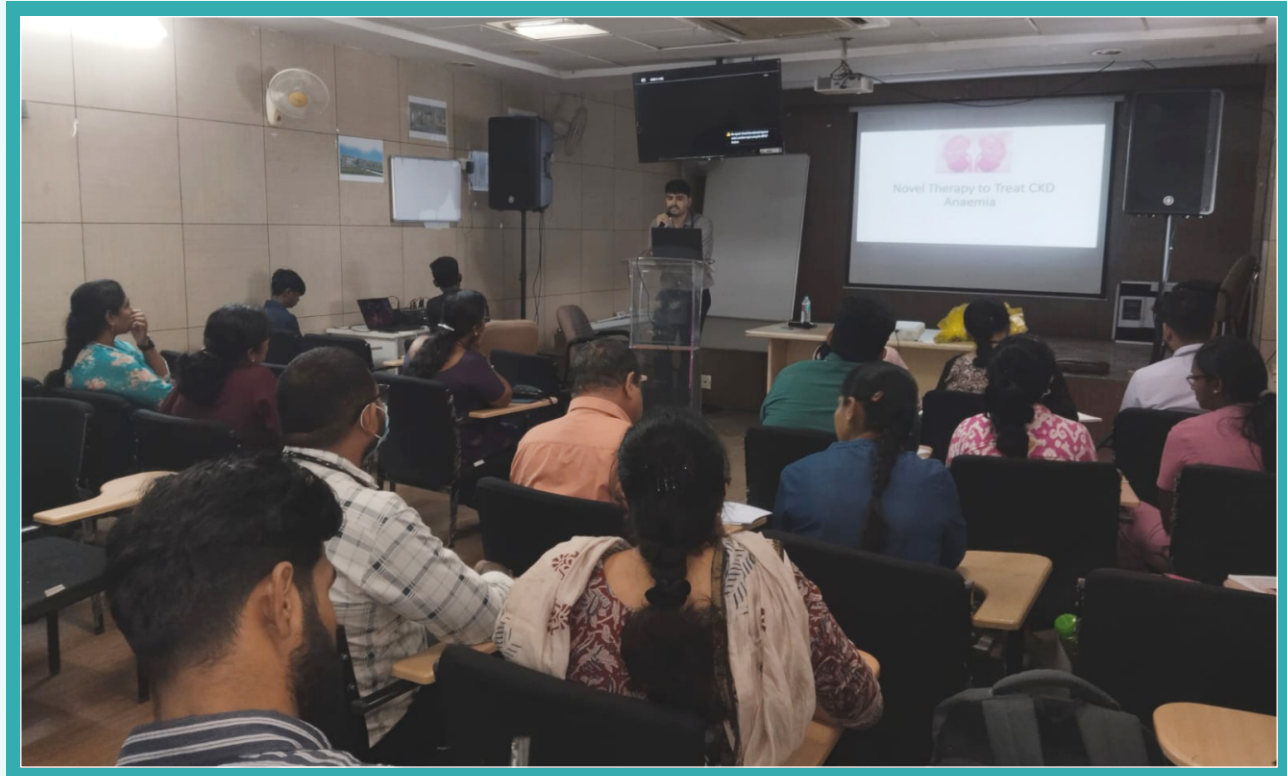
### **Incorporating Desidustat into Routine CKD Anemia Management**

The session concluded with a practical discussion on how Desidustat can be effectively integrated into everyday clinical practice. Key topics included appropriate patient selection, individualized dosing strategies, monitoring of hemoglobin and iron parameters, and safety considerations. Participants exchanged insights on optimizing treatment workflows, minimizing therapeutic burden, and enhancing long-term adherence. The discussion emphasized the importance of adopting a patient-centered approach that aligns therapeutic efficacy with convenience and safety. Overall, the session reinforced Desidustat's potential to redefine the management of CKD-related anemia and improve patient outcomes in real-world settings.

**At the end of the Conclave, the CME Foundation of India extended its sincere gratitude to the speaker and delegates for attending the conclave and acknowledged Zydus Lifesciences Ltd., the industry partner, for their valuable support and contribution to the success of the Conclave.**

## Snapshots of Success

### Lecture on Novel Therapy to Treat CKD Anemia in India









Developed by:

## CME FOUNDATION OF INDIA

Building "A" Sahney Business Centre, 27 Kirol Road, Vidyavihar (W), Mumbai - 400086  
Tel: +91 22 61798600 | Website: [www.cmefi.co.in](http://www.cmefi.co.in)